

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01116 110951Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 /112 W

-----068820 111730Z /47

R 110830Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1007

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1116

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, OAU, SP, SS, SF

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: A) YAOUNDE 2289 (NOTAL), B) LIBREVILLE 1069 (NOTAL)

1. ALGERIAN FON MIN BOUTEFLIKA APPARENTLY DID INDEED HAVE SOMETHING TO

SAY TO PRES BONGO ABOUT FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE IN AFRICA DURING HIS VISIT TO LIBREVILLE (REFTEL (B). JUST WHAT HIS PITCH WAS IS NOT CLEAR, BUT IT MAY HAVE BEEN REQUEST TO BONGO TO MAKE SOME KIND OF STATEMENT AGAINST SUCH FRENCH ACTIVITY IN HIS CAPACITY OF PRESIDENT OF OAU.

2. WHATEVER IT WAS, BONGO RAMBLED ON ABOUT HIS REPLY AT SOME LENGTH DURING GENERAL CONVERSATION FOLLOWING JOINT FRG-FRENCH-US DEMARCHE MAY 9 ON ANOTHER SUBJECT. APPARENTLY BOUTEFLIKA PICKED ON WRONG MAN TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH. WHAT HE GOT WAS APPARENTLY CONFIDENTIAL

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LECTURE ON GABON'S LONGSTANDING MILITARY ARRANGEMENT WITH FRENCH, GABON'S SOVERIGN RIGHT TO CONCLUDE SUCH AGREEMENTS WITH WHOMEVER THEY WISHED, AND A COMMENT THAT IF GABON WERE THREATENED TODAY, (EVEN INTERNALLY) FRANCE WOULD INTERVENE (NOT CONTRADICTED BY FRENCH CHARGE) -- A PROSPECT THAT BONGO QUITE OBVIOUSLY FOUND REASSURING. SAME WAS TRUE FOR CHAD WHICH HAD SAME SOVEREIGN RIGHT AS GABON IN SUCH

MATTERS.

3. COMMENT: SINCE WE DO NOT KNOW CONTEXT IN WHICH MATTER WAS RAISED
BY BOUTEFLIKA, WE CANNOT CONFIRM ANY ALGERIAN CAMPAIGN
CRITICAL OF FRENCH PRESENCE AS MENTIONED PARA 4 REFTEL (A). BUT
IF THAT WAS WHAT BOUTEFLIKA WAS TRYING TO DO, HE DIDN'T MAKE
ANY HEADWAY HERE.TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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